

House File 513 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 513

BY TUREK

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to education, including requiring instruction
2 related to persons with disabilities in school districts,
3 accredited nonpublic schools, and charter schools
4 in kindergarten through grade eight, modifying the
5 responsibilities of the state board of education, and
6 modifying provisions related to school district and
7 accredited nonpublic school programs that are designed to
8 eliminate harassment and bullying.
9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.11, subsections 2, 3, and 4, Code
2 2023, are amended to read as follows:

3 2. The kindergarten program shall include experiences
4 designed to develop healthy emotional and social habits and
5 growth in the language arts and communication skills, as well
6 as a capacity for the completion of individual tasks, and
7 protect and increase physical well-being with attention given
8 to experiences relating to the development of life skills and
9 human growth and development. Commencing with the school
10 year beginning July 1, 2024, the kindergarten program shall
11 include age-appropriate and research-based instruction related
12 to persons with disabilities, including physical disabilities
13 and visual and hearing impairment, the federal Americans with
14 Disabilities Act of 1990, codified at 42 U.S.C. §12101 et
15 seq., and the history of persons with disabilities in this
16 state. A kindergarten teacher shall be licensed to teach in
17 kindergarten. An accredited nonpublic school must meet the
18 requirements of [this subsection](#) only if the nonpublic school
19 offers a kindergarten program. For purposes of this section,
20 "age-appropriate" and "research-based" mean the same as defined
21 in section 279.50.

22 3. The following areas shall be taught in grades one through
23 six: English-language arts, social studies, mathematics,
24 science, health, age-appropriate and research-based human
25 growth and development, physical education, traffic safety,
26 music, and visual art. Commencing with the school year
27 beginning July 1, 2024, the social studies curriculum shall
28 include age-appropriate and research-based instruction related
29 to persons with disabilities, including physical disabilities
30 and visual and hearing impairment, the federal Americans with
31 Disabilities Act of 1990, codified at 42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq.,
32 and the history of persons with disabilities in this state.
33 Computer science instruction incorporating the standards
34 established under [section 256.7, subsection 26](#), paragraph
35 "a", subparagraph (4), shall be offered in at least one grade

1 level commencing with the school year beginning July 1, 2023.
2 The health curriculum shall include the characteristics of
3 communicable diseases including acquired immune deficiency
4 syndrome. The state board as part of accreditation standards
5 shall adopt curriculum definitions for implementing the
6 elementary program.

7 4. The following shall be taught in grades seven and
8 eight: English-language arts; social studies; mathematics;
9 science; health; age-appropriate and research-based human
10 growth and development; career exploration and development;
11 physical education; music; and visual art. Commencing with
12 the school year beginning July 1, 2024, the social studies
13 curriculum shall include age-appropriate and research-based
14 instruction related to persons with disabilities, including
15 physical disabilities and visual and hearing impairment, the
16 federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, codified at
17 42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq., and the history of persons with
18 disabilities in this state. Computer science instruction
19 incorporating the standards established under section 256.7,
20 subsection 26, paragraph "a", subparagraph (4), shall be
21 offered in at least one grade level commencing with the
22 school year beginning July 1, 2023. Career exploration
23 and development shall be designed so that students are
24 appropriately prepared to create an individual career
25 and academic plan pursuant to [section 279.61](#), incorporate
26 foundational career and technical education concepts aligned
27 with the six career and technical education service areas
28 as defined in [subsection 5](#), paragraph "h", and incorporate
29 relevant twenty-first century skills. The health curriculum
30 shall include age-appropriate and research-based information
31 regarding the characteristics of sexually transmitted diseases,
32 including HPV and the availability of a vaccine to prevent
33 HPV, and acquired immune deficiency syndrome. The state board
34 as part of accreditation standards shall adopt curriculum
35 definitions for implementing the program in grades seven

1 and eight. However, **this subsection** shall not apply to the
 2 teaching of career exploration and development in nonpublic
 3 schools. For purposes of **this section**, ~~"age-appropriate",~~
 4 ~~"HPV", and "research-based"~~ mean means the same as defined in
 5 section 279.50.

6 Sec. 2. Section 280.28, subsection 4, Code 2023, is amended
 7 to read as follows:

8 4. ~~Programs encouraged~~ Antiharassment and antibullying
 9 programs. The board of directors of a school district and the
 10 authorities in charge of each accredited nonpublic school ~~are~~
 11 ~~encouraged to~~ shall establish programs designed to eliminate
 12 harassment and bullying in schools. To the extent that
 13 funds are available for these purposes, school districts and
 14 accredited nonpublic schools shall do the following:

15 a. Provide training on antiharassment and antibullying
 16 policies to school employees and volunteers who have
 17 significant contact with students.

18 b. Develop a process to provide school employees,
 19 volunteers, and students with the skills and knowledge to help
 20 reduce incidents of harassment and bullying. Such a process
 21 shall include annual education related to the effects of
 22 bullying, including the effects of bullying through electronic
 23 communication and social media.

24 Sec. 3. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION — DEVELOPMENT OF
 25 CURRICULUM RELATED TO DISABILITY AWARENESS.

26 1. On or before July 1, 2024, the state board of education
 27 shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A that establish
 28 standards for the instruction related to persons with
 29 disabilities and the history of persons with disabilities
 30 described in section 256.11, subsections 2, 3, and 4, as
 31 amended by this Act.

32 2. The department shall consult with all of the following
 33 persons when developing the standards described in subsection
 34 1:

35 a. Parents of students who are enrolled in school districts,

1 accredited nonpublic schools, and charter schools.

2 b. Teachers and administrators who are employed by school
3 districts, accredited nonpublic schools, and charter schools.

4 EXPLANATION

5 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
6 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

7 This bill relates to education, including requiring
8 instruction related to persons with disabilities in school
9 districts, accredited nonpublic schools, and charter
10 schools in kindergarten through grade eight, modifying the
11 responsibilities of the state board of education, and modifying
12 provisions related to school district and accredited nonpublic
13 school programs that are designed to eliminate harassment and
14 bullying.

15 The bill requires that, commencing with the school year
16 beginning July 1, 2024, the kindergarten program in school
17 districts, accredited nonpublic schools, and charter schools,
18 and the social studies curriculum provided to students
19 enrolled in grades one through eight in school districts,
20 accredited nonpublic schools, and charter schools, shall
21 include age-appropriate and research-based instruction related
22 to persons with disabilities, including physical disabilities
23 and visual and hearing impairment, the federal Americans with
24 Disabilities Act of 1990, and the history of persons with
25 disabilities in this state. The bill requires the state board
26 of education to adopt rules that establish standards for this
27 instruction in consultation with the parents of students
28 enrolled in schools as well as teachers and administrators.

29 Current law encourages the board of directors of a school
30 district and the authorities in charge of each accredited
31 nonpublic school to establish programs designed to eliminate
32 harassment and bullying in schools. The bill modifies this
33 provision to require the establishment of such programs.
34 Current law also requires school districts and accredited
35 nonpublic schools to develop a process to provide school

1 employees, volunteers, and students with the skills and
2 knowledge to help reduce incidents of harassment and bullying.
3 The bill requires this process to include annual education
4 related to the effects of bullying, including the effects of
5 bullying through electronic communication and social media.